***Introit (Psalm 110)***

P: God went-up and everyone shouts for joy!

**C: The Lord went-up and the trumpets announced.**

P: The Lord said to my Lord, sit near My right hand,

C: Until I put Your enemies under Your feet.

P: The Lord promised and He will not change His mind.

**C: You are a priest forever, the same-as MELCHIZEDEK.**

P: The Lord is near your right hand.

**C: When He comes in anger, He will destroy kings.**

**All: Glory give to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, the same as it was in the beginning, is now, and will continue forever. Amen.**

***Prayer for God’s Word***

P: Almighty God, Your only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, went-up into heaven. Keep our hearts and minds with Jesus in heaven. Let us always live there with Jesus. Jesus lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (copy) Amen.

The First Lesson is from Acts chapter 1.

Dear friend of God, in my first book, I told about everything Jesus did and taught until that day Jesus went-up to heaven, after He gave orders from the Holy Spirit to His apostles. After Jesus’ suffering and death, He came to the disciples and showed many proofs that He was alive. Jesus came to them for 40 days and He talked to them about the kingdom of God.

When Jesus was with His disciples, He commanded them not to leave from the city JERUSALEM. He told them to wait for the promise from the Father. Jesus said, “Remember, I told you about this. JOHN baptized with water, but in a few days you will get-baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

Again, Jesus met with His disciples, and they asked Him, “Lord, now do You plan to make Israel a free kingdom again?”

Jesus answered, “You will not know the Father’s plans. Only He has the power to decide the time and day. But happens the Holy Spirit comes on you, then you will receive power and will teach and preach about Me 1) in JERUSALEM; 2) in all JUDEA; 3) in SAMARIA; and 4) to the far places on earth.”

When Jesus finished speaking, while the disciples watched, He went up, and a cloud hid Him and they couldn’t see Him anymore. They stood staring-up into the sky watching Jesus go up. Then two men clothed in white stood next-to them. The two asked, “You men from the country GALILEE, why do you stand here staring-up into the sky? Jesus went up into heaven, and He will come again the same way.”

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Second Lesson is from Ephesians chapter 1.

I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and how you love all God’s holy people. That is why I remember you in my prayers and always thank God for you. I ask the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, to give-you His Spirit to make you wise and to know Jesus better. He will open your minds, then you will know the hope He gives you, the wonderful glorious gift He gives all His holy people. And you will know His great power working in us believers.

That same power raised Jesus from the dead and made Jesus the King in heaven, reigning over all kings, government people, powers, lords, and everyone now and forever. God put everything under Jesus’ reign, and made Jesus the Head reigning over all the Church. The Church is His body, and He fills every part of His body in every way.

This is the word of the Lord.

C: (copy) Thanks give to God.

The Gospel lesson is from Luke chapter 24.

C: (copy) Glory to You, O Lord.

Then Jesus said to them, “These are My words I spoke to you, while I was with you. I finished all things the law of MOSES and the prophets and the Psalms wrote about Me.” Then He opened their minds, and they understood the Holy Writings. Jesus said to them, “In the Holy Writings we read the Christ must suffer and arise from the dead on the third day. And people must preach repentance and forgiveness of sins in Christ’s name to all nations beginning in the city JERUSALEM. You are witnesses about these things. I will send to you the One My Father promised. Wait in the city until you receive the power from heaven.”

Jesus led them out to the place named BETHANY. He raised-His-hands and blessed them. While Jesus blessed them, He went-up into heaven. They worshiped Jesus, and then went again to the city JERUSALEM with much joy. And they were always in the temple praising God.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: (copy) Praise to You, O Christ.